Canada, Brazil, Mexico, Argentina, Thailand, Phillipines, South Korea, Japan and several other countries.

Guidelines to States for adoption of liberalised economic and industrial policies

1282. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that inspite of the economic liberalisation brought by the Central Government, States are not announcing their industrial and economic policies thereby making slow progress on the policy; and

(b) whether the Central Government have issued guidelines to State Governments for early adoption of liberalised economic and industrial policy ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR) : (a) and (b) The State Governments are within their constitutional rights to decide their own economic and industrial policies. Government of India have not issued any guidelines to the State Governments in this regard.

Total amount of tax arrears

1283. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) what is the total amount of arrears in excise duty and income-tax;

(b) the time since when they are due;

(c) what are the names of top 20 defaulters in both and what is the total amount involved in each case; and

(d) what steps have been taken by Government to recover these arrears ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR) : (a) *Central Excise Duty* :—

The total amount of Central Excise Duty arrears as on 30-9-1992 is of the order of Rs. 1717.76 crores.

Income-tax :—

The income-tax (including Corporation tax) demand outstanding on 31-3-92 was Rs. 8461 crores. By 30-9-1992, however, this had been reduced to Rs. 6992 crores.

(b) *Central Excise Duty* :—

The accrual of Central Exise Duty arrears and the recovery thereof is a continuous process. The arrears arise when the duty demand is disputed by the assessee on various counts, like classification, valuation of the goods and incorporation of various rules under the Central Excise Duty and Salt Act, 1944.

Income-tax :—

Income-tax demand of Rs. 7032 crores out of the total demand of Rs. 8461 crores outstanding on 31-3-1992 was less than three years old. Out of this sum of Rs. 7032 crores, demand of Rs. 4950 crores was raised in the financial year 1991-92 itself. Demand of Rs. 1429 crores was more than three years old.

(c) *Central Excise Duty* :—

The statistics regarding outstanding tax arrears are maintained company-wise in each Central Excise Collectorate separately. Thus, each collectorate will have different top 20 defaulters. Moreover, the time and effort involved in the collection of information relating to large number of companies from field formations spread all over the country will be enormous and not commensurate with the objective sought to be achieved.

Income-tax :—

As per the statement attached (*See* below).

(d) *Central Excise Duty* :—

Administrative, legal and other measures as are considered necessary, are taken from time to time to recover the Central Excise arrears.

Income-tax :—

The following steps have been taken to recover/reduce the outstanding Income-